

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed Aug. 9, 2005. Claims 1 – 16 were pending, and Claims 2 – 11 were allowed, Claim 12 was rejected, and Claims 13 – 16 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Also, an informality was noted with the Abstract.

In response, the Applicants have amended the Abstract, and have cancelled Claim 12, and amended Claim 13. In addition, the Applicants have amended the claim of priority in the first paragraph to correct a typographical error, which has already been corrected on the Official Filing Receipt in this case.

This case is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees (or credit any overpayment) associated with this communication and which may be required under 37 CFR §1.78 to Deposit Account No. 50-2603, **referencing Attorney Docket No. 359999.01201. A duplicate sheet is attached.**

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH LLP

Dated: October 5, 2005

By: 

Name: Doyle B. Johnson
Registration No. 39,240
Attorneys for Applicants

Two Embarcadero Center, Suite 2000
P.O. Box 7936
San Francisco, CA 94120-7936
Direct Dial (415) 659-5911
(415) 543-8700 Telephone
(415) 391-8269 Facsimile

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, US Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 5, 2005.

Dated: October 5, 2005


Norma E. Gillespie